

Student Visa and U.S. Higher Education

A U.S. Consulate General, Hyderabad Face book Chat, held on June 20th, 2014 from 03:00pm – 04:00pm

Facebook Chat Transcript

US Vice Consul: Welcome to Facebook Fridays!

<u>Student</u>: my sister completed B tech and Mtech in India itself and she is moving on to us on H4 (dependent visa) as she is married to a person holding H1B visa. Will she b eligible to work with her current Educational qualifications or she has to do MS again or any short term course will b enough to fetch her a right job? Please do suggest me.

US Vice Consul: H4 dependents do not have authorization to work in the U.S. In order to work in the U.S., your sister must find an employer willing to file a petition on her behalf. This petition will be carefully reviewed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. To learn more about working in the U.S., you can visit the USCIS website (http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis) and click the link, "Working in the U.S."

Student: I was in United States on F1 visa 3.5 years ago for doing MBA, but came back to India because of family emergency and stayed 4 months in India and then again I have travelled back by carrying travel I20 to continue my studies but because of my mother's bad health I couldn't able to stay, so I came back to India catching next day's evening flight. After six months, I started working in IT Company, I have around three years of work exp. and also I did professional certification in India. Now I'm planning to do MBA again in United States, My visa got approved for 5 years when I attended last time i.e. 2011 and it is valid till 2015 Dec, Do I get visa if I go for visa interview with other school I20 on same MBA degree with elective PM or should I need to go with same school? (School which I went previously is ready to give me admit for spring 2015).

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> You do not need to go to the same school as you are no longer enrolled in that school and program. You will need a new visa no matter which school you intend to enroll in.

<u>Student</u>: I Have 10 Back logs 2014 pass out. GRE have to write is my backlogs effect on my visa interview. Please Reply.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Backlogs or academic scores are just a few aspects of a student visa application. Consular officers look at the totality of a student's profile during their interview to assess whether they meet the qualifications for a visa class. You should be prepared to talk about your academic past in India and future plans to prove you are a credible, qualified student.

An applicant for a student visa (F-1 or M-1) must demonstrate the following:

- Acceptance at a school.
- Possession of sufficient funds.
- Minimum preparation for course of study.
- Present intent to leave the United States at conclusion of studies

<u>Student</u>: Many F1 visa aspirants discuss that visa acceptance rate is based on university selection, does visa granting officers really bothered about the university in USA?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> The selection of the university it not nearly as important as the reason for selecting it, what you plan to study, and your preparation for that course of study.

<u>Student</u>: I have visa interview very soon. How much liquid cash should I show at time of interview or can I show property, lands, estimated income from other sources by which I can finance by education.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> You need to demonstrate to the officer that you can afford to pay for the first year of your education and residence in the United States. It's up to you how you want to do that. Be prepared to show financial evidence that you or your parents who are sponsoring you have sufficient funds to cover your tuition and living expenses during the period of your intended study. For example, if you or your sponsor is a salaried employee, please bring income tax documents and original bank books and/or statements. If you or your sponsor owns a business, please bring business registration, licenses, etc., and tax documents, as well as original bank books and/or statements. If you plan to fund your finances with loans or through selling property, you need to be able to explain that plan.

<u>Student</u>: I have work experience as a quality analyst what all should I have to show that I have work experience are pay slips and joining letter enough.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> The only documents required to apply for an F1 visa are a valid passport and an I-20. If you wish to bring evidence of your work experience, it is up to you how you wish to do that.

Student: I attended my visa interview on 16th I felt so embarrassing because my paper passed from one counter to other, why like this happen I don't know,

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> We cannot discuss case-specific questions in this forum. If your visa application was approved, you will be notified when your passport is ready for pick-up. If it was denied, you may reapply at any time, but we recommend you only reapply once you can address the reason(s) for the earlier refusal.

Student: I was rejected for F-1 Visa even though i attended all questions to VISA OFFICER.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Applicants who were refused a visa are eligible to reapply; all visa applications are given every possible consideration consistent with U.S. immigration law. However, there is never a guarantee that any applicant will have their visa approved.

Student: I am in a relationship with an U.S. resident since last year. We are now planning to get married and the only option we have is opting for a K1visa. We have little information about the processing of K1 visas and very soon we going to file the petition for the same. So now i just wanted to know if we file the petition by next week, when is that i will have to show up for a interview and is this interview is going to be in Hyderabad or somewhere else and does my fiancé needs to show up for the interview as well.?

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Facebook Fridays is a forum for student visas. For questions relating to any other visa categories, please visit the USCIS website or contact the U.S. Embassy at New Delhi.

<u>US Vice Consul:</u> Thank you to everyone who asked questions. We'll be back next week for the next installment of Facebook Fridays. Have a happy weekend!